MS150832.02/MSFTP150US

CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A system that regulates access to a distributed computing platform comprising:

a component that analyzes an application that requests access to the distributed computing platform, the component determines a level of access to the distributed computing platform and applies a trust level to the application corresponding to the determined level of access; and

a component that compares the applied trust level of the application with a trust level of a module called by the application and regulates access of the application to the distributed computing platform based at least in part upon the comparison.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the component that analyzes the application providing for inheritance of the trust level.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the component that analyzes the application providing for marking the application with at least one of states: (1) fully trusted, (2) run restricted, and (3) fail to load.
- 4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the component is stored in a Read Only Memory (ROM) in the platform.
- 5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the component is part of an operating system.
- 6. (Cancelled).
- 7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the functionality of one or more Application Programming Interface (API) calls, when called by the application, are selectively restricted.

MS150832.02/MSFTP150US

- 8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein selectively restricting the functionality of the one or more API calls includes restricting the functionality to read functions.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein selectively restricting the functionality of the one or more API calls includes terminating the application.
- 10. (Previously Presented) A system for regulating access to a distributed computing platform, comprising:

means for determining a trust level for an application, the application requesting access to the distributed computing platform;

means for applying the trust level to the application to regulate access to the distributed computing platform; and

means for regulating access of the application to the distributed computing platform by analyzing a trust level of a module called by the application.

- 11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10 further comprising means for applying the trust level to one or more modules called by the application.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A method for regulating access to a distributed computing platform, comprising the steps of:

determining a trust level for a first module called by an application, the application requesting access to the distributed computing platform; and

regulating access of the application to the distributed computing platform based at least in part upon the determined level of trust for the first module.

- 13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein determining the trust level for the first module further comprises the step of marking the first module with at least one of states:
 (1) fully trusted, (2) run restricted, and (3) fail to load.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein determining the trust level for the first module further comprises transmitting the first module to a verification program.

MS150832.02/MSFTP150US

- 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein regulating access to the distributed computing platform further comprises selectively aborting calls made to one or more APIs.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein regulating access to the distributed computing platform further comprises selectively terminating the first module.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein a program for determining the trust level for the first module is stored in a ROM in the platform.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the logic for applying the trust level to regulate access to the platform is stored in a ROM in the platform.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the trust level may be inherited.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the trust level may be applied to one or more second modules called by the first module.